



PROCLAMATION

Sea Otter Awareness Week
September 25 – October 1, 2011

WHEREAS, the sea otter is a symbol of wilderness, an integral part of California's natural ecosystem, and serves as an indicator for the overall health of California's nearshore marine ecosystem; and

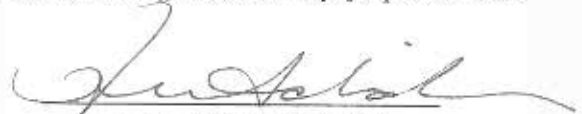
WHEREAS, a growing awareness of the benefits of maintaining the health of the nearshore marine ecosystem has raised public interest in the sea otter. Disease from a variety of sources, including land-based biological pathogens, accounts for approximately 40% of the mortality for California Sea Otters in a given year; and

WHEREAS, the health of the sea otter, nearshore ecosystem health, and human health are inextricably linked to the land-sea connection, whereby what we do on land has impacts on our oceans; and

WHEREAS, the survival of the sea otter in California remains dependent upon continued public support and increased understanding of the essential role sea otters play in nature.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, HELENE SCHNEIDER, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Santa Barbara, do hereby proclaim September 25 – October 1, 2011 as **SEA OTTER AWARENESS WEEK** in Santa Barbara, and encourage citizens to be mindful of the sea otters and their greater importance to our future.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Santa Barbara, California, to be affixed this 20th day of September 2011.


HELENE SCHNEIDER
Mayor

